

President Trump's Executive Actions: Too Little or Nothing At All!

A look at what the four executive actions passed on August 8th by President Trump mean

EXECUTIVE ACTIONS	THE CATCH	THE NUMBERS DON'T ADD UP
Unemployment insurance – \$300 per week	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This is just half the \$600 provided by the House bill The order requires states to pay an additional \$100 per week, which forces hard hit states to make major cuts to other services during the pandemic The minimum benefit leaves out many low-wage, part-time, and gig workers This new requirement on the states could take weeks or months to implement 	The \$44 billion in federal aid allocated in this executive order would cover less than 5 weeks of payments for the 30 million individuals who are currently unemployed.
Evictions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Does not stop evictions. Leaves it to federal agencies (HHS, CDC) to take action Does not offer rent relief. Leaves it to federal agencies (Treasury, HUD) 	The order does not provide immediate relief to help people pay rent and avoid eviction. 30 to 40 million renters may be at risk for eviction if no additional aid is provided.
Student loans – Suspends loan payments – Freezes interest from accruing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Applies only to loans held by the Dept. of Education Doesn't include private student loans (e.g., bank loans) Ends Dec. 31, 2020 	This order does nothing to assist millions who hold private student loans.
Payroll tax cut	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not a cut but a delay in paying taxes until Dec. 2020. Tax rates will increase in 2021. Applies only to the workers' share of Social Security payroll tax Depends on whether employers agree to participate The White House cannot forgive taxes without Congressional approval Does nothing for the unemployed 	If this tax cut were to be made permanent, Social Security funds could run out as early as 2023, rather than 2028 as is now projected.

TRUMP'S EXECUTIVE ORDERS PROVIDE NO FUNDING FOR

- **State and local governments**, which will lead to cuts in essential services as their budgets are devastated by the COVID pandemic
- **Medicaid**, which means states, stretched by the pandemic, will need to cut Medicaid
- **Schools**, which face major new costs to re-open safely
- **Food assistance**, despite tens of millions lacking enough food
- **Testing, contact tracing**, and other measures to control the COVID pandemic



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